IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims, in the subject application:

Claim 1. (Currently amended)   An automated auction and tender system for effecting electronic transactions between a tender initiator and a tender recipient, comprising:

a storage device for storing information regarding at least one tender of a multi-variable commodity, wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one tender having at least one term;

a processing device for generating <u>the</u> at least one tender, wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one tender is created by ~~said~~ <u>the</u> tender initiator, and wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one tender includes an authorization to receive a request to change ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one term of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> multi-variable commodity, ~~said~~ <u>the</u> request being submitted by ~~said~~ <u>the</u> tender recipient;

a communication network for transmitting information, corresponding to ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one tender, to ~~said~~ <u>the</u> tender recipient,

~~said~~ <u>the</u> communication network further configured for receiving ~~said~~ <u>the</u> request from ~~said~~ <u>the</u> tender recipient to change ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one term of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one tender,

wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one term is changed to create an amended tender <u>in response to receiving the request</u>, wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> amended tender includes ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one term and a changed term,

wherein ~~said tender initiator creates said~~ <u>the</u> amended tender <u>is created</u> upon accepting ~~said~~ <u>the</u> request to change ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one term <u>received</u> from ~~said~~ <u>the</u> tender recipient,

wherein ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one term of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> at least one tender that is changed relates to a physical characteristic of the complex multi-variable commodity.

2